MARVEL

#4

PAK · SMITH · PALLOT · POGGI · HOLLOWELL

WEAPON

10020 6019

H

BURN AT THE TOUCH OF

THE MAN-THING

WHO IS WEAPON H?

ROXXON REPORT #343

NAME: CLAY [redacted]
OCCUPATION: Ex-military [redacted]
HISTORY: Team [redacted] orders to eliminate a [redacted] village of [redacted] civilians. Subject refused and murdered his entire [redacted] squad.

[redacted] full identity unknown. [redacted] searching military records for potential relations.

Subject reported K.I.A., [redacted] released to Weapon X.

[redacted] failed experiments, Wolverine/Hulk DNA [redacted] H-Alpha succeeded. Subject labeled "Weapon H."

Director Agger [redacted] investigating [redacted] Eaglestar connections.

Subject located. Man-Thing sent to engage.

All assets [redacted] to engage the weapon [redacted] destroyed.

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FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

LOOK, ANSON... MAY I CALL YOU ANSON?

NO.

ALL RIGHT. MR. DAVIES--

SERGEANT DAVIES.

SERGEANT DAVIES.

MY NAME IS *DARIO AGGER.*

I'M HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE THE *OLDEST SOLDIER* TO HAVE SERVED ON EAGLESTAR'S *BLUE TEAM...*

...WHERE YOU AND YOUR FELLOW RECRUITS LEARNED *COMBAT TECHNIQUES* FROM FOUR DIFFERENT *CONTINENTS* AND THREE DIFFERENT *PLANETS.*

I HAPPEN TO BE LOOKING FOR A *MONSTER* WHO SHARES THE SAME *SKILLS.*

YOU MET *EVERY BLUE TEAM RECRUIT.* PERHAPS YOU MIGHT--

PERHAPS *YOU* MIGHT GET THE HELL OFF MY PORCH.

SERGEANT DAVIES...

...AS MUCH AS I RESPECT YOUR *PROVEN ABILITY* TO *MURDER* PEOPLE...

...I ASSURE YOU I'M CONSIDERABLY MORE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FIELD.

SONOFA--

BLAM

SERGEANT DAVIES, I'M THE C.E.O. OF ROXXON INDUSTRIES, THE RICHEST CORPORATION ON THE PLANET.

THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD. I CAN OFFER A SUBSTANTIAL REWARD IF YOU JUST--

WHACK

YOU THINK I'D SELL OUT A BUDDY'S FAMILY FOR MONEY?

SO HE'S GOT A FAMILY, EH?

ODESSA, TEXAS.

MOMMY'LL BE BACK SOON.

YOU JUST DO EVERYTHING GRAMMA SAYS, OKAY?

I LOVE YOU. LOVE YOU LOVE YOU LOVE YOU.

DAMMIT.

YOU'RE DRIVING ME CRAZY HERE, HUSBAND.

THOSE CLOWNS AT ***EAGLESTAR*** TOLD ME YOU WERE DEAD.

KILLED ON AN OVERSEAS MISSION.

--NO ONE HAS ANY IDEA WHERE THE ***HULKVERINE*** MIGHT STRIKE ***NEXT.***

BUT THEN YOUR BUDDY ***ANSON*** STARTS TALKING...

...AND I START ***THINKING.***

YOU WERE ALWAYS THE ***BEST.***

BEST ***MARKSMAN.*** BEST HAND-TO-HAND ***COMBATANT.*** BEST ***TACTICAL PLANNER.***

HOW THE HELL COULD ANYONE KILL ***YOU?***

BUT IF YOU'RE *ALIVE*...

...WHY DIDN'T YOU COME *HOME*?

AND HERE'S WHERE I FEEL THE EDGES OF MY BRAIN CATCHING ON FIRE AND TURNING BLACK...

...BECAUSE THE *REAL* QUESTION IS...

...WHY'D YOU *LEAVE* IN THE FIRST PLACE?

REDWOOD NATIONAL FOREST. SEVEN YEARS AGO.

HEY...

WHA--!

OH MY GOD!

GAH! DON'T SNEAK UP ON ME LIKE THAT.

I WASN'T SNEAKING! I WAS JUST...

I--I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

WHAT-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

I HEARD SOMETHING.

...

I... DON'T HEAR ANYTHING...

THERE. MOUNTAIN LION KILL.

OH MY GOD.

IT'S PROBABLY *WATCHING* US NOW.

WE SHOULD...WE SHOULD GO.

COME ON, CLAY.

CLAY.

OKAY.

OKAY.

YOU LET ME PULL YOU AWAY...

...BUT YOU DIDN'T WANT TO GO.

EVERY FEW MONTHS, YOU'D TALK ABOUT US GOING *BACK* TO THE *WOODS*...

...LIKE IT WAS SOMETHING WE *SHARED*. SOMETHING WE SHOULD DO *TOGETHER*...

...BUT I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY SAW *ME* WITH YOU THERE AT ALL.

REDWOOD NATIONAL FOREST. NOW.

YOU WANTED TO BE *ALONE*, DIDN'T YOU?

WHA--

ALONE WITH YOUR MONSTERS.

SKRAAAW

SNIKT

ROXXON SATELLITE COMMAND 43F.

DIRECTOR AGGER! OUR MAN-THING HAS ENGAGED WEAPON H!

TREMENDOUS. ARE THE FLY-SPIES OPERATIONAL?

YES, SIR.

PUT ME ON SPEAKER.

HELLO, MONSTER.

MY NAME IS DARIO AGGER. I RUN THE ROXXON CORPORATION. AND YOU ARE...?

GRRRAAAAAA!

NOT READY TO TALK? I UNDERSTAND. WE'VE BEEN HUNTING YOU FOR SOME TIME NOW...

...AND I SUPPOSE YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST SLASH YOUR WAY THROUGH OUR MAN-THING EASILY ENOUGH.

BUT THE MAN-THING'S NOT AS MUCH OF A **PUSHOVER** AS HE MAY SEEM.

WE'VE **ENHANCED** HIS ABILITIES WITH DNA HARVESTED FROM A FLORA COLOSSUS KNOWN AS **GROOT.**

SO ONCE HE GETS A **FIRM GRIP,** YOU MIGHT FIND IT HARDER THAN USUAL TO **ESCAPE...**

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE MAN-THING HAS A **SPECIAL POWER.**

WHATEVER KNOWS **FEAR** BURNS AT HIS **TOUCH.**

I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU.

NOT YET.

BUT WHAT IF I TOLD YOU...

...I KNOW A WOMAN'S BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.

YOUR WIFE, I'M GUESSING.

I HAVEN'T GOTTEN HER NAME JUST YET.

OR YOURS.

BUT IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME NOW.

THERE WERE 112 SOLDIERS IN EAGLESTAR'S BLUE TEAM.

WE'RE CHECKING THEIR RECORDS, ONE BY ONE. I IMAGINE WITHIN AN HOUR, WE'LL KNOW EXACTLY...

...WHO YOU ARE...

...AND WHO YOUR FAMILY IS.

AND THEN WE CAN TALK BUSINESS.

Noooooo!

FWOOOOOSH!

MY GOD...

WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON?

YOU... YOU HIT A *NERVE*, DIRECTOR.

AND I GUESS A *HULK-SIZED* MONSTER...

"...HAS GOT SOME HULK-SIZED *FEAR.*"

Redwood National and State Parks

POLICE

I'M SORRY, MA'AM! THE PARK'S *CLOSED*--PLEASE GET BACK ON THE BUS!

WHAT? NO! I'VE GOT TO--

MA'AM, THERE'S A *FOREST FIRE!* YOU CAN'T GO IN!

THIS WAY, FOLKS!

HUH.

KRRREEEAAAK

WATCH OUT!

AAGH!

THOOM

WHO THE--

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE...

WAIT A MINUTE...

...I'VE...

...I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING--

GRRRAAAAAAAAA!

OH MY GOD!

IT'S *HIM.*

COME ON, WE'VE GOTTA GET YOU OUT OF HERE!

WHAT THE HELL--

COME ON!

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS THIS?

UFF. FAIR ENOUGH.

I'M *DR. ELLA STERLING,* ARCHAEOLOGIST. TWO WEEKS AGO, I ENCOUNTERED THAT... THAT *HULKVERINE...* UP IN ALASKA.

I'VE BEEN TRACKING HIM EVER SINCE BY MAPPING UNEXPLAINED *SEISMIC ACTIVITY* FROM THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

HE TRAVELS BY *LEAPING,* AND EVERY TIME HE HITS THE GROUND, HE CREATES A SEISMIC INCIDENT THAT--

WHAT-- WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH *ME?*

KRAKOOM

OKAY, I KNOW THIS IS GONNA SOUND WEIRD, BECAUSE *MAGIC* WAS INVOLVED, AND ORDINARILY I DON'T BELIEVE IN *ANY* OF THAT--

--BUT I SAW A *VISION...*

...OF THAT MONSTER'S *GREATEST SECRET.*

AND THAT SECRET WAS *YOU.*

GRRRRDDDDDA!

C-CLAY?

SONIA...

LOOK, I KNOW THIS IS A BIG MOMENT.

BUT IT'S NOT *SAFE.* WE SHOULD GET MOVING BEFORE--

YOU!

WHY'D YOU BRING HER HERE?

I TOLD YOU!

NO ONE'S SUPPOSED TO FIND HER! NO ONE!

WHUP WHUP

WHUP WHUP

WHUP

I *KNOW.*

WHICH IS WHY WE SHOULD *GO.*

NO.

YOU TWO GO.

WHAT?

C-CLAY, NO!

WHATEVER'S HAPPENED HERE, I'M *WITH* YOU! YOU HEAR ME? WE'LL FACE IT *TOGETHER!* WHATEVER IT TAKES!

SONIA...

NO.

THEY WILL *KILL* YOU. AND THE *KIDS.* AND *EVERYONE* WE KNOW.

SO YOU *RUN.* AND YOU NEVER STOP RUNNING.

NO--I'M NOT GONNA JUST--

DAMMIT, SONIA. IF YOU EVER LOVED ME...

HEY!

...JUST... *LIVE.*

CLAY!

SPLSSSSH

WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

SKKRRR

AAKK--

--KOOOOOOOOOOOOM

WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

CLAY!

SHHHH!

SHOOM
SHOOM
WOOSH
KTHUKK
KTHUKK
KTHUKK
HRRRN...
DIRECT HIT!
REELING HIM IN!
BE CAREFUL! THIS IS WHERE HE *KILLS* EVERYONE!
I DUNNO, MAN...
...DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THERE'S MUCH **FIGHT** LEFT IN HIM.
OF COURSE.
THE ***NOBLE SACRIFICE.***
SO ***EASY*** TO GET A MONSTER TO DO WHAT YOU ***WANT...***

"...WHEN THE FOOL'S A *HERO* AT *HEART.*"

CLAY!

TO BE CONTINUED!

Send letters to
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.
Be sure to mark them
"okay to print"!

WEAPON

WE WANT LETTERS!

Welcome to the WEAPON H letters page, where Greg Pak takes a break from scripting to answer your most metal letters. Sit back and enjoy!

Dear WEAPON H Workers,

Oh. My. GOD. WEAPON H is amazing! I only recently got into comics, and I'm glad I got into WEAPON H. It's surprisingly intriguing. The Hulk with the powers of Wolverine, except he can keep calm when transformed and he doesn't lash out. Unstoppable. Wait, does that mean Clay has the healing powers of Wolverine, so he can live forever? But on to the Ur-Wendigo. That fight was great, and it really showed the ethics and expertise of Clay. Where Bruce might get mad and just "SMASH," Clay saved the truck driver then the rest of the townsfolk. And when he learned the Ur-Wendigo couldn't be defeated from the outside, he defeated it from the inside. Clay's military experience could really come in handy. And the art! Hulkverine bursting out of the Ur-Wendigo! That was amazing! The artists are doing a great job! And I have to mention what inspired me to write you guys: the Brood! Using an Acanti! I love it! I've read a few of my dad's old X-Men comics, and most of them come from the Brood story arc, so I'm so excited to see the Brood back in action. I am definitely keeping this comic on my pull list. You guys are doing an amazing job! And until old ideas stop becoming better, Make Mine Marvel!

Ezra Moore

P.S. I think with all these Hulks, a Hulk series in the vein of "Spider-Verse" would be cool. Or a Hulkverine miniseries in the vein of the original Wolverine limited series (which I only have three issues of, ugh!). Either would be amazing. I can't stop saying how amazing this comic is! Good job (for the fourth time this email)!

Thanks so much, Ezra! And yes, Clay has the healing powers of Wolverine--and of the Hulk! Whether that means he'll live forever I guess really depends on whether you guys keep buying the book. So don't let the big guy down now! ;-)

Seriously, we hugely appreciate the enthusiasm. And if you like the Brood, definitely keep on reading!

All right, wow.

When I first heard of the Weapon H concept, I was more than skeptical. I'll flat-out say I thought it was dumb. What kind of a 12-year-old dreams up this stuff? Then I read issue #1. And then issue #2. After issue #3, I'm writing this to say man was I ever wrong, and happy to be so.

WEAPON H has me on the edge of my seat! The writing is incredible. The threats are unreal. The story is gripping! This is no adolescent fantasy; this is a stunning new entry into the Marvel Universe. Greg, you have taken what by all rights should have been a one-and-done Weapon X monster and turned out into an instant must-read. You've knocked it out of the park with three baseball bat-sized Adamantium claws.

Can't wait to see what happens next!

David
Maryland, U.S.

Hey, David, thanks for the kind words. As I've said before, I adore stories that take ridiculous premises and totally commit. Comics should be weird, I always say--we're one of the few mass mediums left where creators get to try totally gonzo stuff all the time. And I particularly love it when a story as big and bombastic as this gets to dig so deep emotionally. So glad the book's working for you, and thanks again!

Dear Greg Pak,

Weapon H is one of my favorite new Marvel heroes. While the heroes such as Ms. Marvel and Spider-Man are fun, it's nice to see the darker aspect of Marvel. I think that Clay would be a perfect fit with other antiheroes such as the Punisher, Deadpool or Venom, so what are the chances of a crossover between the four of them? Perhaps even a revival of the Dark Avengers, if you find some more antiheroes. Think it over. Meanwhile, keep up the good work.

Ahsen

Thanks much, Ahsen! We've also been thinking of interesting team-ups Weapon H could find himself in… And if you dig antiheroes, I think you're gonna get a big kick out of where we're going with the story that begins with issue #8. In the meantime, we're exploring a different kind of team-up altogether with a big Captain America story in issues #6 and #7. Keep on reading!

WEAPON H is what got me back into comics again, and I'd like to thank you for that. How I discovered WEAPON H I don't know, but it was a wonderful and much-needed discovery in my life. The Hulkverine is just so cool. I really hope there are more of him running around for him to fight because when he fought Weapon H-Beta and Hulk that was probably one of the coolest things I've ever seen in comics. I was just wondering, why is Clay's Hulked-out form gray? Because all of the other Hulked-out forms from the Weapon H program were green. I was just wondering if that was a design choice or if there is an actual reason behind it. Thank you so much for writing this and answering my question.

Christian

I think Weapon H being gray was initially just a design choice--a neat way to make him distinctive and have him stand out from other Hulks in the world. But I think it's also a nice homage to the very first appearances of the Bruce Banner Hulk. I like that because the Bruce Banner Hulk changed over time--most famously becoming green after a few issues--but he's also changed in other subtler ways throughout the years. So Weapon H being gray might be a tip of the hat to the possibility of that kind of change with our own dude…

Hi, Greg. I just finished WEAPON H #3 and I'm more psyched than ever for this new series! If I may, I wish to respond to Tom from Devon, UK. I don't see Weapon H as a half Hulk / half Wolverine hybrid. I see Clay (Punisher-esque) as a FULL HULK jacked with Adamantium (the nanotech variety as you, Greg, explained). Just say'n. Again, going nuts for this run. Big thanks to you, Cory, Morry and everybody who puts this out!

Bill
Fords, NJ

Thanks for the kind words, Bill! Respectfully, I won't get into an argument with you and Tom--very often I think it's more fun for readers to debate their interpretations of characters without us dumb writers busting in to tell them what's what. I'll just say that it's a blast for us to be exploring both the Hulk and Wolverine influences on Clay--and we hope he'll continue to be fun to read for both Hulk and Wolverine fans!

Team H,

This book is...incredible! Had this come out in the early '90s there is a good chance that my 11-year-old brain would have exploded! Really enjoying the book; as a longtime Hulk fan this feels like an interesting way to tell some fresh Hulk stories, and I think Clay has great potential. That being said, I also wouldn't mind seeing him face more early Hulk villains a la Wendigo. Either way, I hope to see WEAPON H stick around for a long time to come!

Jason

Oh yeah, my submissions for the letter page name: Alpha-Mail or Nano Grams. Thanks!

Thanks a ton, Jason! Hey, if you're interested in seeing classic Hulk characters in the WEAPON H book, definitely don't miss the story that begins with issue #8. I'll say no more! See y'all next time, and thanks again!

NEXT ISSUE:
WEAPON H IN THE CLUTCHES OF ROXXON!
On sale 7/18/18

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